

The Wild Ride.
I hear in my heart, I hear in its ominous
pulses,
All day the commotion of sinewy, mane-
tossing horses;
All night, from their cells, the import-
unate tramping and neighing.

Let cowards and laggards fall back; but
alert to the saddle,
Straight, firm and abreast, vault our
weather-worn galloping legion.
With stirrup-cup each to the one gracious
woman that loves him.

The road is through dolor and dread,
over crags and morasses;
There are shapes by the way, there are
things that appall or entice us;
What odds? We are knights, and our
souls are bent on the riding!

Thought's self is a vanishing wing, and
joy is a cobweb,
And friendship a flower in the dust, and
glory a sunbeam;
Not here is our prize, nor, alas! after
these our pursuing.

A dipping of plumes, a tear, a shake of
the bridle,
A passing salute to this world, and her
pitiful beauty!
We hurry with never a word in the
track of our father's.

I hear in my heart, I hear in its omin-
ous pulses,
All day the commotion of sinewy, mane-
tossing horses,
All night, from their cells, the import-
unate tramping and neighing.

We spur to a land of no name, outracing
the storm wind;
We leap to the infinite dark, like the
sparks from the anvil,
Thou leadest, O God! All's well with thy
troopers that follow!
—Louise Guiney.

The City of Kano.
General Sir Frederick Lugard says
of Kano, recently conquered by the
British: "Kano alone among the cities
of Africa which I have seen, with the
exception of Katsena, is worthy of
the name of city, for its houses are
of solid mud, with flat roofs, imper-
vious to fire and lasting through the
centuries. Instead of the beehive-
shaped huts of the populous towns of
the south. Traces of Moorish archi-
tecture are visible everywhere. I took
up my quarters in the small hall of
audience in the mud palace of the Sul-
tan of Kano, a room twenty-five feet
square, eighteen feet high, decorated
with curvilinear shapes and designs in
black, white, pale green and yellow—
the latter formed of micaceous sand,
which glistens like gold. The dome-
shaped roof is supported by twenty
arches, all of mud, but admirably
fashioned."

Scotch Sabbath Observance.
Sir John Lubbock's examples of
the rigid Sabbatarianism of the High-
lands are interesting. One is of a lady
who rose early on Sunday, and car-
ried her canary down into the cellar
to keep the bird quiet. Another is of
a young clergyman whose orthodoxy
was suspected because he was seen
standing at his window on the Lord's
Day "dandling his bairn." A third
story was told by the late Lord Play-
fair, who heard the nurse quieting his
little boy one Sunday in this wise:
"Whist, whist, my bonnie lamb; it's
the Sawbath, or I wud whusle ye a
sang, but I'll sing ye a paraphrase."

Star of Immense Magnitude.
The conception of the magnitude
of the star Canopus, which is regard-
ed as the greatest body in the universe,
is difficult indeed, even when Mr.
Gore of the Royal Astronomical soci-
ety furnishes the sun as a step by
which the imagination may raise
itself. One has some appreciation
of the size of the earth with its cir-
cumference of 25,000 miles. The sun
is more than a million times as large
as the earth. The mass of Canopus
has been weighed astronomically and
found to be one million times greater
than that of the sun.

No Use For Anything Russian.
The Japanese actor, Kawakami,
once played at St. Petersburg and
had made such a good impression that
the czar gave him a gold watch. The
other day in Tokio a pickpocket stole
this watch, but when he found the
czar's portrait engraved on it he re-
turned it to the owner. "Even our
pickpockets," a Japanese journalist
comments, "have no use for anything
that is Russian."

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